



MEDIA RELEASE

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INSURANCE

TENNESSEE FIRE SERVICE AND CODES ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY

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STATE MEMORIAL TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN HONOR OF FALLEN FIREFIGHTERS

Bell Buckle, TN. – A state firefighter memorial will be constructed on the grounds of the Tennessee Fire Service and Codes Enforcement Academy (TFACA), to honor Tennessee firefighters who have lost their lives while in the line of duty.

The memorial will be dedicated this fall to the men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their communities and neighbors. An average of two firefighters per year perish while performing their duty to the citizens they are sworn to protect.

“On a daily basis, firefighters are putting their lives in danger to protect the citizens in their communities, and they do so willingly,” said State Fire Marshal Paula Flowers. “This memorial will be a symbol of our sorrow and eternal gratitude. It is only fitting that we honor these men and women for their dedication and heroism.”

The Tennessee Fallen Firefighter Memorial will be located on the campus of the state firefighter training academy, immediately inside the front gates. The location of the memorial will allow for the students and visitors to see it first as they arrive on site and serve as a reminder the dangers associated with being a firefighter.

Future plans will include a statuette in the center of a black marble Maltese cross, the universal symbol for firefighters. The names of Tennessee’s fallen firefighters will be etched on markers and displayed in a garden setting. Funding will rely on public and private donations. Memorial bricks are also available for sponsorships.

“It is a privilege to have our facility chosen as the location for the memorial,” states Roger Hawks, TFACA’s Executive Director. “This memorial will stand for the heroism of the profession to not only our fallen heroes but to those that continue to serve everyday.”

The ground breaking ceremony is scheduled to be held this fall in conjunction with Fire Prevention Week in October.

The Tennessee Fire Service and Codes Enforcement Academy is located 15 miles south of Murfreesboro. The campus offers the latest in training technology, state-of-the-art equipment and a full spectrum of courses to emergency service first responders and to codes enforcement personnel.

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